

IN CELEBRATION OF JAMES W. PARISH AS 2017 AVIATION PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

HON. THOMAS J. ROONEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 28, 2017

Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the accomplishments of James W. Parish, executive director of the Punta Gorda Airport, who was recently recognized as the 2017 Aviation Professional of the Year by the Florida Department of Transportation.

Every year, the Florida Department of Transportation honors one executive member of the aviation community with the title of Aviation Professional of the Year. The recipient is selected based on the management and logistical organization of their airport, as well as the safety and technological advancements that take place under their watch.

Mr. Parish earned this award because of the impressive progress that the Punta Gorda Airport has made under his leadership and his overall contributions to the Charlotte County community. During his tenure in Punta Gorda, Mr. Parish elevated the airport from one that only served the general aviation community to one that now offers commercial services and has brought over \$200 million dollars into the local economy while serving over 1 million customers. Under his guidance, the airport has modernized and streamlined its safety protocols while still maintaining a low-cost business model.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Mr. Parish and thank him for all that he has done for the Punta Gorda community. He is truly deserving of the Aviation Professional of the Year award, and I am honored to represent him in Congress.

KATY GYMNAST WINS GOLD AT JUNIOR OLYMPICS

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 28, 2017

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Rowan Dumond of Katy, TX, for winning a gold medal for his floor routine at the U.S. Men's Junior Olympic National Championship.

I was both Rowan's first gold at the Junior Olympics and his first time competing there. The 12-year-old competed against 800 of the top junior gymnasts in the country. When not training at the gym, Rowan is also a student at Seven Lakes High School and plays percussion with the band.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Rowan for winning gold at the Junior Olympics. We are very proud of him and look forward to his future success as a gymnast. We're excited to have him represent TX-22.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF F. GAVIÑA & SONS, INC.

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 28, 2017

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize F. Gaviña & Sons, Inc., a coffee company located in my 40th Congressional District of California, in the city of Vernon. The company, one of America's largest family-owned coffee companies and the nation's largest privately held minority roaster, celebrates their 50th anniversary in 2017.

The history of this coffee company is a story about family. Brothers José María and Ramón Gaviña left their native Basque region of Spain in 1870, in search of a better life. They settled in the fertile mountains of southern Cuba and planted the seeds of what would become Gaviña Coffee.

Don Francisco Gaviña was born on the family coffee estate, Hacienda Buenos Aires. As a boy, he worked in the fields with his own father, watching and learning the secrets of growing quality coffee. He spent hours upon hours helping sow the seeds and urging the little plants to grow.

The family left Cuba in 1959, and arrived in Los Angeles in 1963, where they put down roots. The family later leased a 1,100 square foot building in Vernon and purchased a small roaster from Bob's Big Boy restaurant. By June 1967, when they founded F. Gaviña & Sons, Inc., they were roasting, packing and selling Café Gaviña Espresso.

In the beginning, they focused on producing Cuban-style coffee, but eventually expanded into other coffees that appealed to Middle Eastern and Vietnamese coffee drinkers. About 35 years later, Gaviña's retail brand, Don Francisco's Coffee, had become the top selling coffee in Southern California, behind Folgers and Maxwell House.

The family began selling their coffee to a small group of McDonald's restaurants in 1983. In 2005, Gaviña created a stronger blend that resulted in a double-digit increase in the chain's coffee sales.

According to the Los Angeles Times, by 2010, F. Gaviña & Sons, Inc. had become a \$114 million business and was roasting 40 million pounds of coffee a year. A fifth of their revenue was coming from making and packaging private label coffees for McDonald's, 7-Eleven, and Costco stores. Gaviña coffee brands were being sold in 20 states, and in stores like Ralph's, Walmart, and Vons / Safeway.

Don Francisco's sons, Paco, Pedro, and José, and his daughter, Leonor Gaviña-Valls, grew up on the plantation and learned about coffee in the fields. Along with their own children, they still personally select beans, cup samples as they arrive, and oversee the specialty coffee roasting and production every day. They do all of this so that their customers and guests can be ensured a wonderful cup of coffee every time, from first sip to final drop.

Today, they carry on the dream in their 240,000-square-foot eco-friendly, state-of-the-art coffee roasting facility, just a few blocks from their original 1,100 square foot building. Gaviña Coffee employs more than 250 people, and services businesses of all sizes—from

mom and pop shops to multinational accounts. The company offers four leading U.S. coffee brands: Gaviña Gourmet Coffee, Don Francisco's Coffee, Café La Llave Espresso, and José's Gourmet Coffee.

In honor of their 50th anniversary, Gaviña Coffee created a special Anniversary Blend which is roasted in Los Angeles and uses beans grown on the award-winning Carmen Estate in Panamá by a third generation coffee-growing family. The Anniversary Blend, which entered the market on June 19, 2017, comes in a commemorative tin with a 10-ounce bag of ground coffee. Flavor notes in the new blend include caramel, honey, and ripe fruit with a chocolatey finish.

Fifty years have brought many changes to the original company, but one thing remains the same: Members of the Gaviña family still run the day-to-day operations of the company, with a new generation of Gaviñas poised to continue the pursuit of a great cup of coffee.

Gaviña Coffee's 50th anniversary celebration includes: the opening of their first brick and mortar store in downtown Los Angeles, named Don Francisco's Coffee, Casa Cubana; the special anniversary blend; reaching the goal of 100% zero-waste-to-landfill; a continued commitment to leaving a greener coffee footprint through their Direct Impact™ Initiative, which is based on four core pillars of dedication to farmers, sustainable sourcing, environmental sustainability, and social stewardship; continuing to donate coffee to local shelters and missions; and continuing to support organizations such as the Komen Race for the Cure, Avon Walk 39, Children's Miracle Network Hospitals (CMNH), EnrichLA and the International Women's Coffee Alliance.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to please join me in raising our coffee cups to the Gaviña family and F. Gaviña & Sons, Inc. as we celebrate their 50 years of success. We look forward to the next 50 with great anticipation.

TRIBUTE TO SHERRY AND NEAL HANLEY

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 28, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Sherry and Neal Hanley for being named the 2017 Earlham Freedom Fest King and Queen. This award is given to a couple that gives back to the community of Earlham.

Sherry and Neal moved to Earlham in 1976 to raise their children and had them attend Earlham schools. Since then, the Hanley's have served on a number of school projects to help bolster the community. They were on the original Freedom Fest committee and love the parade and how everyone comes together at the park. Both Sherry and Neal serve with the Earlham Lion's Club and with Early Chapel Christian Church. Neal is also a member of the American Legion and served as commander and chaplain.

Mr. Speaker, Sherry and Neal's hard work embodies the Iowa spirit and I am honored to represent them and Iowans like them in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Sherry